GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:853
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2001
SETTING UP OF NATIONAL PRESS CENTRE
PRABHAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY;SANJAY PASWAN;SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to set up a National Press Centre;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with its estimated cost; and

(c) the steps taken to implement the said proposal?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c):A National Press Centre, to facilitate bringing together of informationdissemination agencies is to be set up by Press Information Bureau. The proposed Press Centre will have state of the art facilities for media personslike Press Conference Hall, Committee Rooms, Library, etc. For setting up of the National Press Centre, a plot of land was allotted by Ministry of Urban Development in 1994. However, its possession could not be handed over to PIB as it was not encumbrance free. Recently, an alternative plot has been allotted at Raisina Road. In the absence of possession of land, no cost estimate could be prepared, though funds were projected for the Press Centre in the 9th Plan. It is proposed to make budgetary provision for setting up of National Press Centre in 10th Plan also for implementation of this project.